

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Alexis P. Bernard, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/823,059

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Title: MIDDLE-END SOLUTION TO ROBUST SPEECH RECOGNITION

Grp./A.U.: 2626

Examiner: Eunice Ng

Confirmation No.: 3988

Commissioner for Patents  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed  
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(Signature of the person signing the certificate)

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c)**

Before continuing examination of the above-identified application, please refer to the below arguments and amend the claims as indicated.